

Concord Pond

76.8 acres

Seaford

Fish Community

In the spring of 2014, the Division of Fish and Wildlife sampled the fish community in Concord Pond via electrofishing boat. Results of sampling revealed a decrease in the overall abundance of Largemouth Bass. However, the observation of fry and large numbers of juvenile fish between 5-7 inches indicate spawning has been successful the past few years. Catchable size fish should become more abundant as these fish grow into larger size groups. Although not abundant, several memorable sized bass (≥ 20 ") were caught by anglers between 2010-2014 according to Delaware's Sportfish Tournament Program (<http://de.gov/livereleaseprogram>). Relative weights (measure of condition or 'plumpness') were good for most size groups indicating adequate forage. Chain Pickerel are relatively abundant with many different size groups represented. This species thrives in shallow, weedy environments like those found in Concord Pond.



Panfish species include Bluegill, Pumpkinseed and with Bluegill the most abundant. The Bluegill population is a variety of size groups indicating consistent spawning and recruitment. The largest Bluegill caught during sampling was 8" although several citation-sized (≥ 10 ") Bluegill were caught by anglers in 2013 and 2014. The abundance of Black Crappie has decreased over the past few years. Not enough Black Crappie were collected in 2014 to determine relative weights or population size structure. The few that were observed in 2014 were within a narrow size range of 7-10" in length. No juveniles or recently spawned crappie were observed. It may be difficult to compete in the presence of other more abundant panfish species, although anecdotal information from anglers suggests that crappie may be more abundant during the spring in Tyndall Branch, which is a tributary that flows into the pond. In both 2012 and 2013, citations were given to anglers for catching 12" and 12.5" crappie which exceed the minimum citation size of 10". Creek chubsucker dominated the non-game fish community followed by American eel and Golden Shiner.

Vegetation


Concord Pond is one of several ponds in Sussex County with clear water and abundant aquatic vegetation. Non-native invasive species such as hydrilla have dominated the aquatic plant community for years although coontail and bladderwort, which is a native, were also present. Patches of spatterdock provide a shady refuge for Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie and Chain Pickerel during the warm summer months. The pond is periodically treated with herbicides to reduce the abundance of aquatic vegetation and improve angler access. A percentage (approximately 40%) of aquatic vegetation is left to provide shelter and foraging habitat for the fish community.

Access

There is a boat ramp for launching motorized boats and other watercraft such as kayaks/canoes. The parking area can accommodate numerous boats/trailers. Shoreline access is primarily limited to a short stretch adjacent to the ramp. The major tributary to Concord Pond is Tyndall Branch which flows into the eastern portion of the pond. This tributary is wide (20 to 25 ft) and remains open for a mile or more. Wooded on both sides, the stream offers a picturesque area for anglers using either a canoe or small motorboat to fish in relative seclusion.



Concord Pond is just west of the town of Seaford and the boat ramp is located off of German Rd (County Rd 524) near the intersection with Concord Pond Rd (County Rd






STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

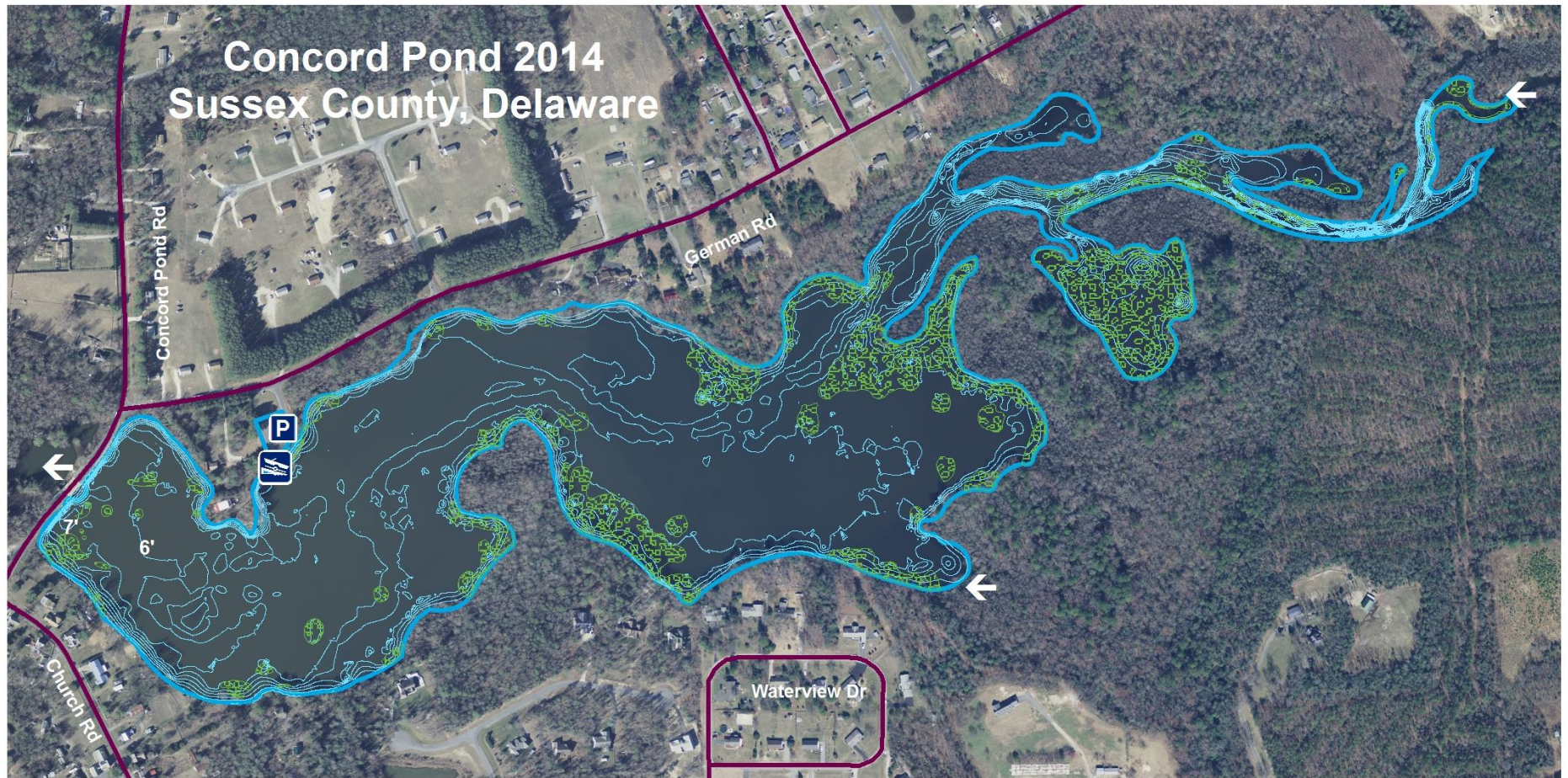
When you leave a body of water:

- Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
- Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

Helps us prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species

(see Pond Map on next page)

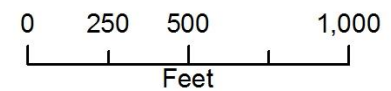


Legend

- parking
- Boat Ramp
- Flow
- Aquatic Vegetation

Pond acreage - 76.8

Maximum depth - 7.0'



The boat ramp and parking can be accessed from German Road

